

# Umetco Minerals Corporation



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February 6, 1987

Mr. Steve McNeal  
Division of Environmental Health  
Utah Department of Health  
150 West North Temple  
Salt Lake City, UT 84110

RE: Hecla Treatment Plant and Silverbell Mine Discharge Analyses

Dear Mr. McNeal:

We have received the analyses for the last water samples for the above named facilities. The results are as follows:

	<u>Hecla Treatment Plant</u>	<u>Silverbell Mine Discharge</u>
pH (field)	6.5	6.5
Ra226, pCi/L (R)	6.7(+1.4)	23(+3)
Nat. Uranium, pCi/L (R)	133	2190
TDS, mg/L	532	1200
TSS, mg/L	5	7

As you can see from the results, the Ra226 went over 5 pCi/L again. We are very disappointed, since we had followed all of the manufacturer's recommendations. We are using all of the original resin as a filter media in column number one and we put the new resin in column number two. We are exploring various ideas on how to solve the problem.

The letter of January 22, 1987, from the Utah Water Pollution Control Committee has been received. The comments in the letter will be incorporated in the final design proposal for our Wilson-Silverbell mine water discharge system.

Yours truly,

*Niels B. Haubold*  
Niels B. Haubold  
Manager of Mines

NBH/jac

xc: David Ariotti, Southeast District Engineer